

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 L-03 /066 W

----- 127123

R 131635Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8811

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11281

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, PFOR, IT

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF NEW EC COMMISSIONER

REF: EC BRUSSELS 6742

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE TOLD EMBASSY JULY 12 THAT GOI
HAD OFFICIALLY INFORMED OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF ITS NOMINATION
OF CESIDIO GUAZZARONI, WHO RETIRED A FEW MONTHS AGO AS THE
MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AS REPLACE-
MENT ON EC COMMISSION FOR ALTIERO SPINELLI. SOURCE EMPHASIZED
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THAT GUAZZARONI WOULD SERVE ONLY UNTIL COMPLETION OF SPINELLI'S

TERM, I.E. TO THE END OF 1976, AND THAT QUESTION OF NOMINATION TO A NEW TERM WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT DECISION BY NEW GOVERNMENT. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

2. IN TERMS OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE RELATED TO EC MATTERS, GUAZZARONI COMES TO COMMISSION WELL QUALIFIED, HAVING SERVED IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AS VICE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS 1962-71 AND AS DIRECTOR GENERAL 1971-76.

ON OTHER HAND, GUAZZARONI MUST BE CLASSIFIED AS A BUREAUCRAT RATHER THAN AS A POLITICAL FIGURE. WHILE HE WIELDS NO NOTICEABLE POLITICAL INFLUENCE, HIS POLITICAL TIES ARE WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY (PRI); HIS WIFE IS MEMBER OF REALE FAMILY WHICH HAS LONG BEEN PROMINENT IN PRI POLITICS AND GUAZZARONI RAN UNSUCCESSFULLY FOR SENATE FROM ONE OF ROME CONSTITUENCIES ON PRI TICKET IN JUNE 20-21 ELECTION (VOTE FOR GUAZZARONI WAS ABOUT 10 PERCENT THAT OF WINNING CANDIDATE).

3. WHILE INVARIABLY FRIENDLY AND BY ALL APPEARANCES WELL DISPOSED TO THE U.S., GUAZZARONI FOLLOWED ESSENTIALLY A QTE EUROPEAN UNQTE LINE, REFLECTING AT LEAST IN PART ITALIAN PREDILECTION FOR FOLLOWING MAIN CURRENT OF EC POLICY RATHER THAN TAKING LEAD IN ANY DEVIATIONS FROM IT. FROM ADMINISTRATIVE POINT OF VIEW, GUAZZARONI TENDED TO BE RELUCTANT TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO HIS SUBORDINATES IN FOREIGN MINISTRY. NONETHELESS, HE DID NOT GIVE IMPRESSION OF BEING EITHER FORCEFUL OR PARTICULARLY IMAGINATIVE FIGURE.

4. ONE POSSIBLE CLOUD IN GUAZZARONI'S FUTURE IS HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN CORRUPTION IN ISSUANCE OF IMPORT LICENSES FOR BANANAS. WHILE THERE IS LITTLE FIRM INFORMATION, PRESS REPORTS THAT PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY IS DUE TO BEGIN IN COMING WEEKS, AND GUAZZARONI'S NAME MAY COME UP IN THIS CONNECTION.

5. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. GUAZZARONI, A CAREER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, WAS BORN IN PESCARA IN 1911. HE RECEIVED DEGREES IN LAW (1933) AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (1935) FROM UNIVERSITY OF ROME. SINCE ENTERING FOREIGN MINISTRY IN 1940, GUAZZARONI SERVED ABROAD IN HAMBURG, BERLIN, WASHINGTON (1947-51) AND MOSCOW (HIS LAST TOUR OUTSIDE ITALY, FROM WHICH HE RETURNED IN 1956). PROMOTED TO RANK OF AMBASSADOR IN 1972. MARRIED AND HAS CHILDREN. CONFIDENTIAL

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GUAZZARONI'S ENGLISH, WHILE ADEQUATE FOR WORKING PURPOSES, IS BY NO MEANS FLUENT, AND HE PREFERS TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN ITALIAN OR FRENCH. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME11281
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760761/aaaaccax.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 EC BRUSSELS 6742
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOMINATION OF NEW EC COMMISSIONER
TAGS: IT, EEC
To: SECSTATE WASHDC EC BRUSSELS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN LONDON LUXEMBOURG
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006